

LEGALIZE HEROIN? (See page 3)



Colorado Liberty

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Republicans Vulnerable in District 8

By Michael Freeman

The Colorado Libertarian Party has a chance to become the 2nd, not the 3rd, party in at least one district in the state. There is only one major party in District 8 — the Democratic Party. In this Denver district, a triangle bounded roughly by Colfax on the south, Dahlia on the east, and the Platte river on the northwest, the Republican Party is just another minor party.

As evidence, consider the following:

Republican Hugh Fowler, the winner in the C.U. Regent-at-Large election, with 48% of the statewide vote, received only 13% in District 8. This is less than 3 times Libertarian Suzanne Conlon's 4.4% in the same district.

And, John Fuhr, the GOP's weakest candidate statewide, received 31% of the statewide vote for Governor, but (get this!) only 8.5% of the vote in District 8. This is only slightly more than 3 times Paul Grant's 2.7% in this district.

Overall, the Republican candidates, who received from 34% to 55% of the statewide vote in these elections, received from 8 to 17.5% in district 8. Compare this with the CLP's 2.3 to 4.4% in this district, and it becomes clear that the difference between the GOP and CLP percentages, though substantial, is certainly not dramatic. The GOP currently outpolls the CLP in this district by only 3 or 4 to one. The GOP is not a major party in District 8. It can be overtaken.

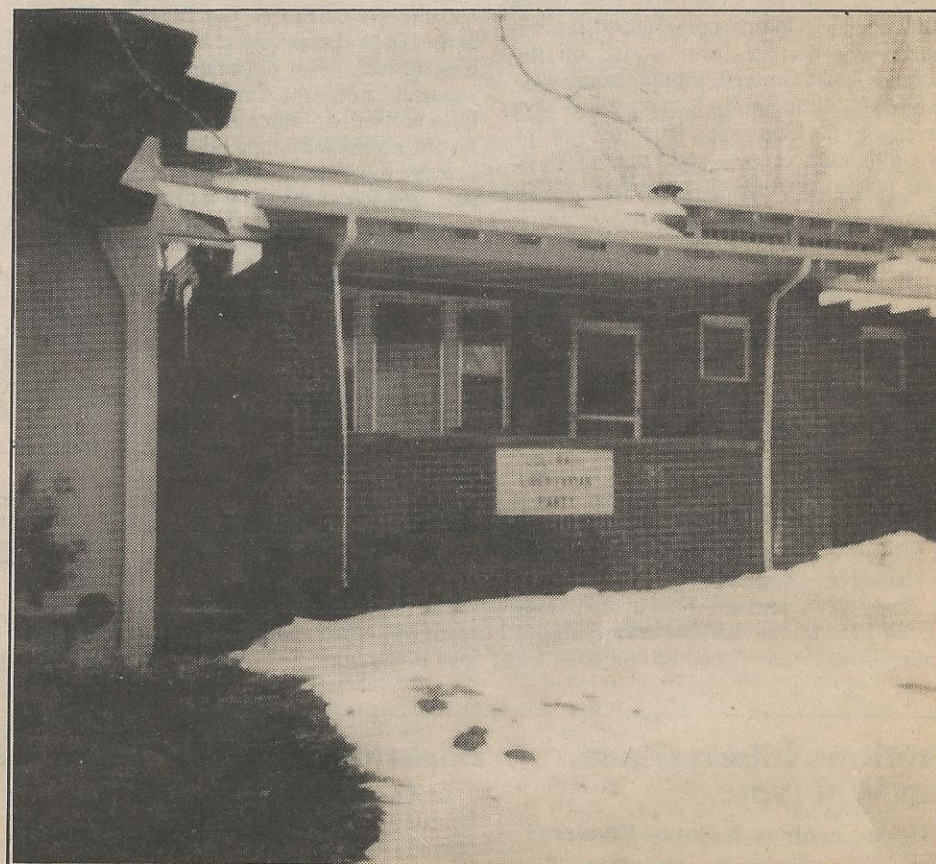
Crime Rate Got you Down? Try a Free Market Approach

By Carolyn Phelps

Most people accept the idea that police protection is a legitimate function of government and police power should be controlled in the public sector rather than the private sector. Even many who advocate free market solutions to correct other government services where waste and corruption are evident, draw the line when it comes to police

and public policemen are required to follow the "law of hot pursuit" which means the suspect they are pursuing must remain within sight at all times.

Both the public police and the private security guard can use a weapon to prevent the commission of a felony, but neither can



—Photo by Dought Filley

The Colorado Libertarian Office needs your help to remain open.

Colorado Libertarians' Most Important Asset

By Paul Bilzi

What is the most important thing Colorado (which is always ready to answer your quest

vices where waste and corruption are evident, draw the line when it comes to police protection. Public police are "doing the best they can with the funds available", but there is increasing evidence their best isn't enough. The instances of police corruption, brutality, and inefficiency rises even as the cost to the taxpayer increases. Due to many factors, including budget problems faced by most public police forces, the rising crime rate in all segments of society, and the growing trend for individuals, corporations, and even municipalities to supplement tax paid police protection with private security personnel, private police service has become a more legitimate and even necessary adjunct to public, tax paid police service.

Private security is expanding in areas where government service is inadequate. Many corporations hire private guards to protect their property and personnel. Is is a common sight to see private police patrolling shopping malls, banks, and other public places. As in the old days of the merchant police, merchants in high crime areas are banding together to hire private guards to patrol their property. Owners of apartment buildings hire private security guards and many unincorporated communities, especially the more affluent, rely on private security forces because the county sheriff's departments often have neither the funds nor the manpower to supply sufficient protection.

Are these "rent-a-cops" subject to the same rules that apply to public police officers? What authority do they have to enforce the law? Can they carry a gun and if so what happens if they shoot someone? Some people, especially public police officers, accuse private security guards of a lack of professionalism. What kind of training is required for private guards and how thorough are the background checks on private police?

The high visibility of a uniformed, private security guard usually acts as a deterrent to crime and the private guards are trained to persuade a suspect to remain at the scene of a crime voluntarily, but if it is necessary to make an arrest the private guard can do so under the same rules that apply to a private citizen. Although laws vary from state to state, generally a private security guard can legally make an arrest only if he is sure a felony has been committed. A public police officer, on the other hand, can legally make an arrest with probable cause; i.e., reasonable suspicion a crime has been committed.

If a private guard pursues a suspect to someone else's property or a public street he is subject to liable. However, both private

security guard can use a weapon to prevent the commission of a felony, but neither can shoot unless they believe themselves or someone else to be in immediate, physical danger. It is illegal for either a private policeman or a public policeman to shoot a fleeing person.

In essence there is very little difference between the authority of the private policeman and the public policeman. The big difference is the degree of control the citizen has over the police and who pays for the service.

Public police officers are graduates of the police academy where they are trained in everything from traffic control to the use of firearms. Since they work for some level of government, public police have virtually unlimited tax money to pay for their defense if they are accused of false arrest or other misconduct. In comparison, almost anyone can become a licensed merchant guard simply by filling out an application, swearing they haven't committed a felony, and having their picture taken and being fingerprinted. Supposedly the Excise and License Bureau conducts background checks, but as one security guard said, licensing is more a revenue raiser for the city than a guarantee of professional service. It's up to the private security firms to conduct further background checks and provide their clients with professional guards. Since private security companies have to rely on fees from their clients and can't afford expensive lawsuits, it's to their benefit to hire professional, courteous guards. The private firms are competing with each other and are therefore more efficient, less costly, and naturally more concerned about their clients and the community as a whole. A private security firm must be primarily interested in providing quality, professional service, otherwise their clients will purchase the service from another company. Therefore the client has more control over a private security firm than they do over the public, tax paid police force. For example, when Denver was scandalized by the corruption in its police department in the late fifties, the citizens (clients) couldn't fire the police department and seek out alternative service. Instead, the citizen had to pay even more in taxes for a long, expensive investigation.

Perhaps as the cost of public police protection rises, federal and state funds are cut, and individuals and government agencies "contract out" to private security firms for necessary protection, free market alternatives to the public police monopoly won't seem so far-fetched.

By Paul Dini

What is the most important thing Colorado Libertarians have going for them? A particular person? A recent political campaign? Media exposure? No. This writer and many other people believe it is the Colorado Libertarian Party Office at 1041 Cherokee Street in Denver. For those who have never been there, it is centrally located: convenient to downtown, easy to get to, but in a quiet neighborhood. However, if the office is to remain open and functioning, it needs your financial help now.

The Colorado LP is one of the few state parties to have a permanent office. Its importance cannot be overstated. During the recent election campaigns, the office served as a hub for literature distribution, mailings, volunteer work, campaign strategy, and media contact. Just having the telephone, work space, and typewriter facilitated coordination of political activities statewide.

With the elections over, other office uses come to the forefront. Every month there is a cocktail party/open house, and two discussion sessions. The Board of Directors holds regular public meetings. Finally, Principles of Liberty, a basic study course in libertarian theory and practice, has been offered at the office several times.

Besides these functions, the office contains resources valuable to libertarians outside Denver. It is a strong focus for active affiliates in the metro area (e.g., Arapahoe and Boulder counties), as well as groups as far flung as Colorado Springs, Fort Collins, and Aspen. The resources include a volunteer staff

(which is always ready to answer your questions), a myriad of issue and campaign brochures, data files describing past activities, current and back issues of most libertarian periodicals, and a valuable library.

Perhaps best of all, the office is not just for Libertarian Party use. As an example, Project Liberty, the movement to repeal the income tax, uses it as home base. In the past, single issue projects such as opposing the actions of the Denver Urban Renewal Authority and RTD have been coordinated from the office. Do you have a local, county, or state issue that is affecting your life? Of course you do. Come to the office and use it for organizing, research, and action.

What if there were no Colorado LP office? Almost nothing in this article would exist. No activities, campaigns, protests, or social events. No library, periodicals, or issues brochures. Any gathering would have to be held in someone's home, or a public meeting room. Certainly no way to actively run a political party and effectively pursue current issues.

In the final analysis, the office can continue to be the best asset Colorado libertarians have. Its uses are limited only by your imagination and involvement. But don't take my word for it. Visit or call the office to see for yourself. I'll be surprised if you don't find some way it can benefit you. And if you agree, right now the LP needs your money pledges, volunteer help, and ideas to maintain and expand the office services.

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Profile of a Libertarian: Keane Richardson

By David B. Tyson

The immaculate tidiness of Keane Richardson's living room could both represent and belie his outlook on politics: an orderly futility, a maintenance for Armageddon. One might well place Keane somewhere between political activist and entrenched pessimist, between expert coordinator and fatalistic participant.

Involved professionally with marketing for Hewlett-Packard, his skills carry over to his hobby: politics. He recently helped place a minority coalition of "anti-taxers" on the Loveland Town Council, though losing election himself. Although his loss may well have been due to his Libertarian label (he was the only candidate to run as an LP member), he would not, in retrospect, have done differently.

Having politics as a hobby has allowed Keane to "meet a lot of friends." It has provided both a forum and the seasoning to become a better public speaker. It has given him greater ability to work with people. The latter has proved invaluable in Loveland. In the course of building effective political coalitions Keane has found it vital to avoid generating animosity — which is made all the more difficult when principles are involved; especially when you hold firmly those principles.

It was principles that attracted Keane to the LP. Having abandoned both the Democratic and Republican parties, Keane discovered that the Libertarians had something radical to offer. And Keane accepted the offer. He

took on a leading role in the Larimer County Libertarians. His time and efforts supported the growth of the libertarian movement in the Loveland area. And, of course, he was campaigner and candidate for municipal election.

The future holds the promise of more activity. Keane may organize a boycott of downtown businesses should the city further its plan to subsidize them. Bridges will be built to others who tire of Big Brother. Political skills will be drawn and sharpened. Loveland Libertarians plan affiliation with the CLP separate from the Larimer County Libertarians. With so much of their efforts placed on the community they hope to further their activist roles through better education and participation at the local level.

With his increasing radicalism has come, however, increasing frustration. Keane believes "that everyone's a libertarian, they just don't know it." But how to get people to realize that truth before it's too late has led to some pessimism. As the book next to Keane's reading lamp, *The Ominous Parallels* by Leonard Peikoff, may indicate, Keane foresees an uncertain but certainly dismal future for America and the world. But his pessimism is not terminal. If not enough can be done to prevent social and economic collapse, the hope is his that out of the ashes of modern statism might arise a libertarian society. Like the active, collected person that he is, Keane plans to keep his head when those about him lose theirs.

Bookstore to Officially Open!

An Open House Party will be held Sunday, February 6, 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. to celebrate the opening of the CLP Library-Bookstore at CLP Headquarters, 1041 Cherokee.

Hors d'oeuvres will be served and wine will be \$1 a glass. Get all your wine free by donating books that night!

A video tape of the fall 1981 interview with Roger MacBride, 1976 LP presidential candidate and editor of Rose Wilder Lane books will be shown at 4 p.m.

The new library will be open starting Wednesday, February 2nd, and will have two types of service. One will be the book sales

Colorado Libertarian Party Calendar

1st Tuesday of every month the Libertarian Forum meets in the Brand Building, 203 S. Galena St., Aspen. Call 925-8292 for more information.

1st and 3rd Wednesday every month, Discussion Group, 7:30 p.m., Party Office.

2nd Wednesday every month, CLP Cocktail Party, 7:30 p.m., Party Office. Relaxed, informal, cash bar.

1st Wednesday of every month, Boulder County Libertarian Association, 7:30 p.m., at 1913 Broadway in Boulder. Call Jerry Van Sickle for details at (h) 442-0514 or (w) 443-5578.

4th Thursday of every month, Park County Libertarians meet, call Phil Prosser for details at 838-7693.

*4th Wednesday of every month the Arapahoe County Libertarians meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Aurora Public Library, 14949 E. Alameda Drive in the Community Room, 1-A. Call Karl Murphy at 693-1430.

- January**
- 19, **Wednesday** — Discussion Group. 7:30 p.m. at CLP Headquarters. Topic: Indoctrination in Our Schools
 - 26, **Wednesday** — Arapahoe County Libertarians meet. See above.
 - 27, **Thursday** — Park County Libertarians meet. See above.
 - 29, **Saturday** — The Future of the Colorado Libertarian Party? **IMPORTANT MEETING - Everyone Come!** 11 a.m. at Headquarters. For more information, call 573-5229.
 - 29, **Saturday** — CLP Board of Directors meeting, 6:30 p.m.
 - 31, **Monday** — Start of Social Security Week.
- February**
- 1, **Tuesday** — Aspen Libertarian Union meets. See above.
 - 2, **Wednesday** — Discussion Group, 7:30 p.m. Topic: Social Security.
 - 2, **Wednesday** — Boulder County Libertarian Association meets. See above.
 - 9, **Wednesday** — Cocktail Party - Everyone Welcome! 7:30 p.m. at Headquarters.
 - 16, **Wednesday** — Discussion Group at the Office, 7:30 p.m. Topic: Freedom From or Freedom To — What is the Difference?
 - 19, **Sunday** — CLP Board of Directors meeting. Noon at the Office.
 - 23, **Wednesday** — Arapahoe County Libertarians meet. See above.
 - 24, **Thursday** — Park County Libertarians meet. See above.
- March**
- 1, **Tuesday** — Aspen Libertarian Union meets. See above.
 - 2, **Wednesday** — Discussion Group. 7:30 p.m. at CLP Headquarters. Topic: Taxi Deregulation
 - 2, **Wednesday** — Boulder County Libertarian Association meets. See above.
 - 9, **Wednesday** — CLP Cocktail Party - Everyone Welcome! 7:30 p.m. at Headquarters.
 - 16, **Wednesday** — Discussion Group. 7:30 p.m. at Headquarters. Topic: The Prospects for World Economic Collapse

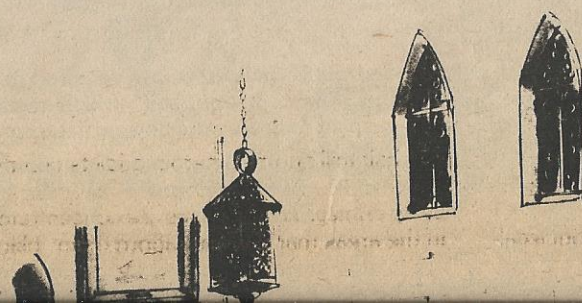
Elections Libertarians Can Win Now

By Honey Lanham & Boyce Kendrick

A man from Maryland was once President of the Towson PTA and later elected Vice President of the United States. Spiro Agnew is not the calibre of candidate we Libertarians are looking for, but we can nonetheless learn from his example some fundamental lessons about GETTING ELECTED.

Today the Philomath Council, Tomorrow . . .

Among ground-floor offices, the easiest



about GETTING ELECTED.

Today the Philomath Council, Tomorrow ...

Among ground-floor offices, the easiest ones to win are those no one else will volunteer to fill. Membership on the Philomath City Council, for example. The key to winning this race was consenting to run. That's all Oregon Libertarian Paul Dillon had to do! Philomath, a town of twenty-seven hundred residents, is governed by a mayor and council of six members elected for a term of four years — three of the lawmakers elected every other year. Paul says that there is a strong sense of voluntary action in the community, and in fact the mayor and councilmembers serve without pay.

In the November 2, 1982 election, Paul got 543 votes, only 12 less than the winner.

Twenty-Dollar War Chest

Although it was a non-partisan race, Paul made his views known for a mere twenty dollars by publishing a one-page commentary on local issues from what he described as a "hard-core libertarian" perspective. Paul's letter to his neighbors was left on each household's doorstep in three days of leafletting by Paul, his wife Lexy, and his oldest son Brad, age sixteen at the time.

This is the first election Paul has entered, but actually he was already a member of the city council. A year and a half ago, a vacancy occurred and was duly noted in the *Benton Bulletin*, the county's weekly newspaper. Seven days later, the paper mentioned that the council was still looking for a volunteer to fill the seat. By the time the vacancy was six weeks old, Paul decided he would offer to take it.

As a member of the council, he has given his colleagues copies of Bob Poole's *Cutting Back City Hall*, and is gratified to hear some of those insights occasionally on the lips of his fellow councilmembers. He says he hasn't eliminated bad legislation, but that he has succeeded in removing some of the most objectionable parts of it.

Had there been another Libertarian willing to file for a place on the ballot, there would now be two Libertarians on the Philomath City Council! Paul Dillon advises fellow Libertarians, "If you want to run in 1984, volunteer for any vacancy that comes along."

Given our need to insinuate ourselves into the political pipeline, it is best to abandon the notion that there is any such thing as an insignificant office or one that is beneath our dignity.

If it is within our reach, let's grasp it!

will be shown at 4 p.m.

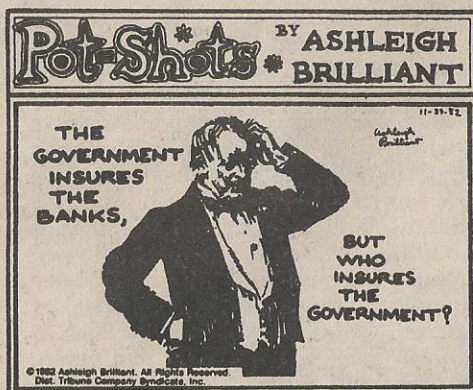
The new library will be open starting Wednesday, February 2nd, and will have two types of service. One will be the book sales section. New and used books are for sale and can be bought quite cheaply. The books purchased can be traded in later for a credit of half their purchase price. Books can also be traded in and exchanged for books of equal value.

The research section has audio and video tapes for rent and books for free viewing at the library. Books can also be checked out for a nominal fee.

The hours the library will be open are:

Wednesdays	6 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Thursdays	4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturdays	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

If you are interested in helping out and/or donating books, give Reyd Dotson 279-0668 or Jan Prince 934-1352 a call.



Reprinted from the Rocky Mountain News

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"Gentlemen, the fact that all my horses and all my men couldn't put Humpty together again simply proves to me that I must have more horses and more men."

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IEWS and NOTES

Join the Bandwagon, Work for Transportation Deregulation

Climates of opinion seem to change in ebbs and flows, and often the best way to influence things is to help push when the tide is running your way. The tide is definitely running in a Libertarian direction in the area of transportation.

1. The Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies recently released a report urging deregulation of towing companies, movers, limousines and sightseeing and charter busses.

2. Senator Don McManus (D, Adams County), the assistant minority leader in the Colorado Senate, is introducing bills to deregulate taxis, intercity busses, package delivery, and household moving. He was surprised to find support from such disparate groups as the (conservative) Mountain States Legal Foundation, and (liberal) Common Cause.

3. There is a movement afoot to sell RTD to the highest bidder and rid ourselves of an arrogant, inefficient, grossly expensive boondoggle.

The CLP needs to be active between elections as well as during them, and here is an issue that affects nearly every one in a highly visible way. It lines up lots of good guys on our side, and gives us a chance to use our not inconsiderable political power in the mainstream of state affairs, which will not only help us become more free, but also will insert us into the nuts and bolts world of Colorado politics, where we can make contacts and begin to personally know the movers and shakers in our state. Finally, it would really be nice to be in the winner's circle this time.

So contact your senator or representative or write a letter to the editor, or do *something* to help push this favorable tide further toward freedom.

Cliches of Statism "Why Not Legalize Heroin?"

By Frank Bubb

Heroin itself does not cause crime. Rather, it is *governmental* prohibition of heroin that has forged the heroin-crime link.

By prohibiting heroin, government has reduced its supply and increased the risk involved in selling it. *Government* has thus driven up the cost of a "normal" habit to about \$100 per day. Absent such prohibition, the same habit would cost less than \$2 per day. The only way for most addicts to afford a habit at current prices is to steal or push drugs.

Yet, we constantly are confronted with the cliché:

"Surely you can't be serious about legalizing heroin? Heroin addiction causes crime, a growing problem, that certainly

crime. Indeed, nowhere in the Ball study is it argued that the pharmacological properties of heroin cause addicts to commit crimes!

In fact, a 1976 Detroit study found that when police cracked down on heroin, its price rose and so did thefts. When enforcement was relaxed, heroin prices and thefts both fell.

It is crucially important that we understand the exact connection between heroin and crime, because it is variously estimated that our half-million or so heroin addicts commit between 20 and 70 percent of America's property crimes. These crimes are concentrated in the areas that can least afford them: black areas of large cities.

If heroin were legalized, many of the medi-

YOUR VIEWS

Editor:

I read with interest an article in your November-December, 1982 issue an article entitled "Private Courts." I am a freedom fighter and have been through the mill with the so called justice system and therefore have been toying with the idea of "Private Courts." It seems to me that the article was calling "Private Courts" something that in fact was just another form of public courts as they are still arms of the government, created by legislation, etc.

My idea of a private court would be one created by private enterprise. These courts would in fact be the type of courts our constitution calls for, namely the "common Law Court." The litigants would pay a small fee to provide court reporters and jurors. Jurors would be people who are interested in justice and would in effect volunteer their time for a small fee. *No Attorneys would be allowed. No briefs would be accepted.*

Each litigant would enter into a binding contract that they would accept the findings of the jurors. Jurors names would be placed in a fish bowl and the litigants would meet

prior to trial and draw names, which would have background of juror, etc. If either litigant was not satisfied with the name drawn they could place the name back in the jar and draw another. After the litigants were satisfied with the jury, the trial time would be set and all jurors would be notified.

At trial each of the litigants would present their own cause to the jury and the jury would render its decision, which would be binding by the contract each litigant had signed to enter the system.

This would truly be a "Private Court" and *no rules, regulations or laws would be argued.* The problem with the current arbitrators, mediators, and peoples courts now in existence is that they are still under the control of the government. ***Our government has long forgotten the simple justice which was the foundation of our nation.*** This type of court could be handled by the Libertarian Party and would truly give meaning to what this party stands for . . . Private Enterprise, unencumbered by regulations, rules, laws and ordinances.

YVONNE W. CAVANAUGH

Editor:

I realize it's very tough to write an election-results article for any publication, very soon after the election. David Nolan attempted this difficult feat for the November/December 1982 issue of *Colorado Liberty*. Data was very sketchy when he wrote it.

We were on the ballot statewide in 30 states this year. In twelve of those 30 states, our candidate at the top of the ticket (almost always Governor) got a higher percentage than Clark did for president in that state two years ago. In the other 18, our top-most candidate in 1982 pulled a lower percentage than Clark did in that state in 1980.

The Colorado LP gubernatorial campaign was an excellent one that helped to build the Colorado LP. Nevertheless, the Colorado gubernatorial campaign did not poll quite as high a percentage of the vote as Clark did in Colorado in 1980.

The article's title "Colorado LP Vote Resists Nationwide Downtrend" is therefore not accurate.

It was especially unfair that Oregon wasn't mentioned, since Oregon's candidate for Governor polled 2.63%, higher than the Colorado gubernatorial showing. It was also unfair that Ohio was listed as a state in which our gubernatorial candidate polled less than 1%, since actually our Ohio gubernatorial candidate polled 1.17%, higher than Clark's Ohio percentage.

The article "puffed" Joe Fuhrig and stated that he received "nearly 1.5%." Actually, he received 1.38%, which is good; but why did the article omit Randall Clemons, our Arizona US Senate candidate, who polled 2.78%, twice Fuhrig's percentage? That result was known the day after election.

The Colorado LP is doing very well by almost every indice, and the hoped-for victory in the Colorado LP ballot lawsuit may prove to be extremely beneficial to the LP all over the country. The Colorado LP deserves to be proud of itself; but there's no point in unfairly downgrading the LP's of other states.

RICHARD WINGER

cliche:

"Surely you can't be serious about legalizing heroin? Heroin addiction causes crime, a growing problem, that certainly isn't victimless. Society has to crack down hard on drug smugglers and dealers to end this scourge once and for all!"

A study was published in 1981 by three Temple University professors, John C. Ball, Lawrence Rosen, and John A. Flueck, and the University of Maryland's David N. Nurco. It now appears as a chapter in *The Drugs-Crime Connection*, edited by James A. Inciardi.

Ball et al. found that heroin addicts commit six times more crimes (other than possession and use of drugs) when they are addicted than when they are not. The overwhelming majority of crimes committed by addicts are theft and selling drugs. However, Ball et al. — and most Americans — have misunderstood the specific connection between heroin and

perjury crimes. These crimes are concentrated in the areas that can least afford them: black areas of large cities.

If heroin were legalized, many of the medical problems currently associated with its use would diminish, as well. For example, "overdoses" are often the result of impure and widely varying mixtures sold illegally on the street. If heroin were legal, it would be subject to the same quality control constraints as other products. According to Edward Brecher in *Licit and Illicit Drugs*: "Almost all of the deleterious effects ordinarily attributed to the opiates, indeed, appeared to be the effects of the narcotics laws instead."

In addition to reducing theft and virtually eliminating pushers from the scene, legalizing heroin would have several advantages.

It would strike a body-blow to organized crime, which reaps fantastic monopoly pro-

(Cont'd. on page 4)

CLP 1983 State Convention

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Program details, hotel information and rates will be mailed in March.

(Pre-pre-registration fee not refundable after May 15, 1983.)

Yes! I want to be a part of the CLP State Convention.

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Resists Nationwide Downtrend" is therefore not accurate.

be proud of itself; but there's no point in unfairly downgrading the LP's of other states.

RICHARD WINGER

Editor:

"People of the same trade seldom meet together even for merriment and diversion, but the conversation ends in a conspiracy against the public, or in some contrivance to raise prices," wrote Adam Smith, the author of modern capitalist economics.

It was therefore with a good measure of skepticism that I read Steve Johnson's recent *Rocky Mountain News* editorial, "Deregulating cabs invites chaos." Johnson, who as a taxi-cab owner enjoys a state-granted monopoly, feeds us the same, tired rhetoric dishonest businessmen ply when threatened with competition.

Johnson's prediction that deregulation will invite confusion and "anarchy" — a spectre of entrepreneurship run amok — is a recurring theme in the monopolist's repertoire of scare tactics. It expresses inordinate fear of risk and uncertainty, economic facts of life for businessmen everywhere.

Johnson correctly anticipates price deflation in a more competitive environment. He is unwilling to admit, however, that this outcome simply reflects what economists call "demonstrated preference."

Given a choice, consumers will make a trade-off between lower prices and higher

quality. If new entrants undercut the prevailing rate, then cab owners should interpret this as a prima facie evidence that riders prefer fewer frills and cheaper fares.

The quality of deregulated service, which Johnson claims would suffer, will vary in a free market as it does for every other commodity. Those who want elegant transportation would have to pay for it. Those who don't wouldn't be penalized as they are now.

Another fallacy Johnson attempts to rehabilitate is an old supply-side standby: if prices fall, competition will get out of hand and everyone will go out of business. Not only has this not happened in any other industry, but it is an impossible occurrence under present market conditions.

Freer markets in transportation are proliferating in response to real transportation needs. Privatization of a growing number of city services and deregulation of government-created service monopolies are beginning to fulfill such needs best.

—MARK DAVID TRAVIS

Travis is a freelance writer and former instructor of economics at the University of Colorado at Denver. Major portions of this letter appeared recently in the *Rocky Mountain News*.

—Editor

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COLORADO

There are no dues for joining the Colorado Libertarian Party; however, nothing, not even freedom, is free. Please consider the following schedule of contributions:

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Legalize Heroin?

(Cont'd. from page 3)

fits from the drug trade because the law keeps legitimate businesses out of the market.

It would reduce corruption among police, prosecutors and judges, some of whom receive bribes to let the illegal drug trade continue.

It would allow police to focus more of their efforts on real crimes — crimes against people and property.

It would permit us to stop jailing drug users and pushers, thus restoring their freedom, reducing overcrowding in the jails and saving tax dollars.

It would allow us to dismantle the costly federal drug bureaucracy.

It would allow us to stop aggravating other nations and propping up certain corrupt

dictators, all in an unsuccessful effort to stop the flow of heroin across our borders.

No responsible, informed person could advocate the use of heroin. But it is time we recognize that our policy of suppressing heroin has become a disaster, harming people in all sorts of unanticipated ways. For the same reasons Prohibition was repealed a half-century ago, we should repeal the prohibition against heroin today.

(Frank Bubb is vice chairman of the Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania and a lawyer residing in Swarthmore, PA)

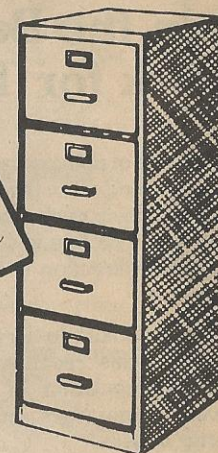
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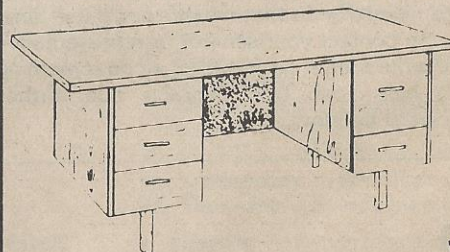


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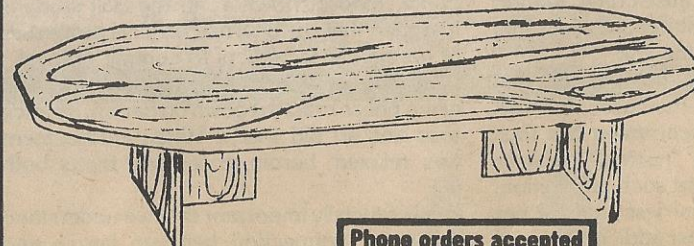
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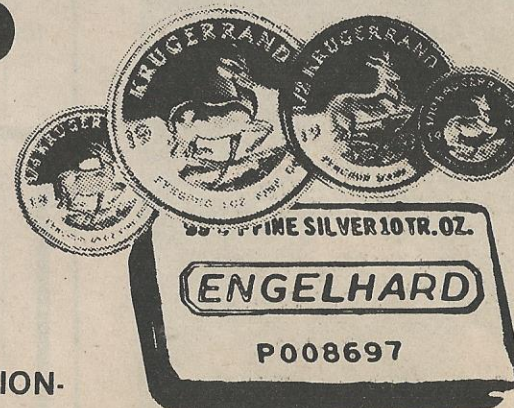


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